

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 QUITO 06777 171817Z

44

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 AF-04 EUR-08 EA-06 NEA-06 ISO-00 AEC-05 AID-05

CEA-01 CIAE-00 CIEP-01 COME-00 DODE-00 EB-04 FEAE-00

FPC-01 H-01 INR-05 INT-05 L-01 NSAE-00 NSC-05 OMB-01

PM-03 RSC-01 SAM-01 SCI-02 SP-02 SS-15 STR-01 TRSE-00

FRB-01 PA-01 USIA-06 PRS-01 DRC-01 ARAE-00 /105 W

----- 025525

P R 121315Z OCT 74

FM AMEMBASSY QUITO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2831

INFO AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI

AMEMBASSY BOGOTA

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY CARACAS

AMCONSUL GUAYAQUIL

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

AMEMBASSY LAGOS

AMEMBASSY LIMA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

USMISSION OECD PARIS

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

UQMTI/AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI 25

AMEMBASSY VIENNA

USINT ALGIERS

C O N F I D E N T I A L QUITO 6777

C O R R E C T E D C O P Y -MRN 6777 VICE 6778

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ENRG, EC

SUBJECT: GOE REAFFIRMS CONTINUITY IN OIL POLICY, DENIES "PRESSURE"

IN JARRIN CHANGE

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 QUITO 06777 171817Z

REF: A) QUITO 6313; B) QUITO 6679

1. PRESIDENTIAL SPOKESMAN COL. CARLOS AGUIRRE IN AN OCTOBER 10 NEWS CONFERENCE DENIED THAT THE RECENT REPLACEMENT OF CAPT. GUSTAVO JARRIN AS NATURAL RESOURCES MINISTER WAS DUE TO FOREIGN PRESSURE, OR THAT IT SIGNIFIED A SHIFT IN ECUADOR'S OIL POLICY. HIS STATEMENT CAME IN RESPONSE TO WHAT THE PRESS DESCRIBED AS QUITO STREET RUMORS, TO THE EFFECT THAT JARRIN'S REMOVAL RESULTED FROM U.S. PRESSURE AFTER HIS SCATHING REJECTION OF PRESIDENT FORD'S UN ENERGY STATEMENT (REF A).

2. AGUIRRE STATED THAT THE SHIFT WAS NOT IN RESPONSE TO FOREIGN OR INTERNAL PRESSURE OF ANY SORT", AND THAT PRESIDENT RODRIGUEZ HAD DECIDED ON THE CHANGE SOME TIME AGO "FOR REASONS WHICH ARE WELL-KNOWN". HE ADDED THAT "PETROLEUM POLICY IS MADE BY THE GOVERNMENT", THAT IT WOULD BE MAINTAINED REGARDLESS OF WHO HELD THE PORTFOLIO, AND THAT CAPT. JARRIN WAS HIMSELF AWARE OF THIS AND WAS MERELY AWAITING THE OPPORTUNE MOMENT TO SAY SO PUBLICLY.

3. CONSPIRACY IS THE DISTINGUISHING FEATURE OF LOCAL POLITICS, AND THE LINE PURSUED BY THE PRESS WOULD APPEAR A NORMAL REACTION TO AS NEWSWORTHY AN EVENT AS JARRIN'S REPLACEMENT. WE SUSPECT THAT THE "REPORTS" WHICH PROMPTED THIS EXCHANGE MAY WELL HAVE BEEN PLANTED BY SOME OF JARRIN'S FOLLOWERS (OR JARRIN HIMSELF) TO PUT RODRIGUEZ ON THE SPOT. IN ANY CASE, THE PALACE COULD HARDLY HAVE RESPONDED OTHER THAN AS IT DID.

4. AGUIRRE'S STRAIGHT-FACED ASSERTION THAT THE PRESIDENT HAD BEEN PLANNING THIS CHANGE "FOR SOME TIME" IS AN INTERESTING REFLECTION OF THE INTERNAL POLITICS WE HAVE DESCRIBED IN REF B. AS NOTED THEREIN, WE AGREE THAT THE GOE COULD HARDLY BE EXPECTED TO REVERSE ITS VIGOROUS DEFENSE OF ECUADOR'S NATURAL RESOURCES. HOWEVER, JARRIN'S TRIO OF FAR-LEFT LEANING SPECIAL PETROLEUM ADVISORS HAVE SUBMITTED THEIR RESIGNATIONS AND IT IS NOT EXPECTED THEY WILL BE RETAINED. AN EMBASSY SOURCE AT NATURAL RESOURCES REPORTS OFFICIALS THERE EXPECT A CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 QUITO 06777 171817Z

CERTAIN CONTINUITY OF POLICY, BUT ALSO A SHIFT IN STYLE AWAY FROM JARRIN'S RHETORIC AND HIS ANTAGONISTIC TREATMENT OF THE OIL COMPANIES.
BREWSTER

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PETROLEUM, POLICIES, REMOVAL FROM OFFICE, PERSONNEL APPOINTMENTS, GOVERNMENT MINISTRIES, PRESS CONFERENCES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 12 OCT 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: golinofr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974QUITO06777
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740296-0083
From: QUITO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19741049/aaaabphj.tel
Line Count: 111
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION ARA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: A) QUITO 6313; B) QUITO 6679
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: golinofr
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 20 MAR 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <20 MAR 2002 by martinml>; APPROVED <22 MAY 2002 by golinofr>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: GOE REAFFIRMS CONTINUITY IN OIL POLICY, DENIES "PRESSURE" IN JARRIN CHANGE
TAGS: ENRG, PINT, EC, (JARRIN, GUSTAVO), (AGUIRRE, CARLOS)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005